VET-CERT NEWSLETTER 2 IN ENGLISH (25-07-2012)

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Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second edition of the VET CERT newsletter, the first to be issued in English. We are already good on the way in the second half of our two-year-project and are pleased to present you the latest results and products of VET-CERT. The competence profiles are already available online and the development of the curricular framework as well as the certification concept is in full swing. One highlight of the project, the VET CERT Final Conference, will be held on the 3rd of December 2012 in Vienna, Austria. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter. Your feedback would be most welcomed!

1) VET-CERT – Competence Profiles   öıbf

(translated from the original text of Manon Irmer, öibf)

As an important outcome of the VET-CERT project, öibf (Austrian Institute for Research on Vocational Training) has developed competence profiles for quality managers in the school-based VET sector in Austria in collaboration with numerous stakeholders. These quality managers are actors at institutional level (schools) and at system or provider level (provincial and federal level) who are active in the operational or strategic areas as part of QIBB.

The development of these competence profiles, as chosen by öibf, builds on Gianni Ghisla's CoRe model - a well established method of VET research for curriculum development. (see more at www.vet-cert.at/products/competence_profiles).

The competence profiles for
> Principals,
> School Quality Process Managers,
> School Inspectorate,
> Regional Quality Process Managers and
> Federal Quality Process Managers
follow a common structure. The first four competence categories correspond to the different phases of the quality cycle (Plan-Do-Check-Act) (see the scheme). In addition, from phase 3 to phase 4 overlapping competences were defined during the development of the competence profiles, whereby the 8th category is seen solely for the actors on strategic level. The developed competence profiles form also

Structure of Competence Profiles

1. PLAN: Planning of quality activities
2. DO: Implementation of Q-measures and Q-projects
3. CHECK: Evaluation of Q-measures and Q-projects
4. ACT: Deduction and planning of measures from evaluation results; documentation
5. Information about QIBB and quality management
6. Motivation to carry out quality activities
7. Ensuring further and continuing training with QM focus
8. Setting up and organising structures of cooperation in the field of quality

the basis for the future work on the development of the curricular framework. All competence profiles are available under www.vet-cert.at/produkte.

For further question concerning the development of the competence profiles, please contact Ms Manon Irmer, (*öibf*, +43 1 310 33340, manon.irmer@oeibf.at.

2) VET-CERT Curricular Framework – Report from the Development Team
(translated from the original text of Jörg Markowitsch, 3s)

According to the work plan of the VET-CERT project, a curricular framework as well as a concept for a certification process is to be developed based on the VET-CERTcompetence profiles, on the Stocktaking Report and on the analysis of comparable training offers. For this purpose a special development team has been established. The members of the team represent project partner organisations, potential participants, teachers and providers (representatives of university colleges of teacher education, universities and adult education) of the future training program and representatives of the Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture (BMUKK). The task of the development team is to provide support and guidance to the VET-CERT Team for the composition of the VET-CERT products Curricular Framework and Certification Concept. In addition, the development team will contribute to the quality assurance of the above mentioned product.

After the first work meeting where the key cornerstones for the curricular framework were defined, the first draft of the curricular framework is already at hand to be discussed in the third meeting of the development team. "We hadn't expected that we would have so soon and such a sophisticated draft to be used for discussion in the team" commented Franz Gramlinger from ARQA-VET the ongoing process. Both final products, Curricular Framework and Certification Concept are seen to be available during the autumn of 2012.

The members of the Development Team are:

Helene Babel (BMUKK), Walter Degendorfer (PH Burgenland), Franz Gramlinger (ARQA-VET), Elke Hochfellner (HAK/HAS of bfi Wien), Marlies Kranebitter (PH Tirol), Wilfried Nagl (SI for Upper Austria), Karin Reisinger (wba), Franz Reithuber (HTL Steyr), Michaela Sburny (LEVADA Consulting OG), Michaela Schneider (BFI), Wilhelm Schönangerer (HBLW Linz-Landwiedstraße),Eva Schönauer-Janeschitz (BMUKK), Burgi Wallner (Uni Klagenfurt) and Jörg Markowitsch (3s research laboratory, lead).

For further questions, please contact Mr Jörg Markowitsch
(3s, 01-5850915-15, markowitsch@3s.co.at).

3) VET-CERT in Retrospect
2. EQAVET Projects Seminar in Brussels, 12./13. December 2011 and
3. EQAVET Projects Seminar in Bucharest, 16./17. Februar 2012

Since the organisation of the first EQAVET Projects Seminar in July 2011 in Vienna, VET-CERT has continued the active cooperation with the five EU financed EQAVET projects. By the 2nd EQAVET Project Seminar in Brussels (12./13.12.2011) and by the 3rd EQAVET Projects Seminar in Bucharest (16./17.02.2012) Jouko Luomi presented results and experiences of the project thus far. All presentations and seminar documents as well as more information on the

cooperation of the EQAVET Projects and about the "EQAVET Promotion and Knowledge Management Unit" are available at www.eqavetprojects.eu.

3. VET-CERT Workshop in Vienna

The 3rd VET-CERT Workshop was held on the **16th of December 2011** in Vienna. With 11 participants from 6 partner organizations the workshop concentrated on the themes of competence profile, curricular framework and project management. ARQA-VET would like to thank all participants for a very active and successful workshop.

VET-CERT Midterm Conference on 12th of January 2012

The VET-CERT Midterm Conference was held at the **Hertha Firnberg School for Business and Tourism** (Hertha Firnberg Schulen für Wirtschaft und Tourismus) in Vienna on the 12th of January 2012. For the around 60 Conference guests from Austria and abroad first results of the project, the Stocktaking Report and considerations for the future competence profiles of the quality managers in the vocational education and training, were presented by the project partner öibf. In four workshops, with the help of active participation of the audience, the results were further discussed and developed. 3s research laboratory, partner for VET-CERT, drew the next steps in the project and presented the planned development of the curricular framework and the certification concept to the audience. In addition, the development team which was established for the support of the forthcoming development of the curricular framework and certification concept, was also presented. We want to thank all our conference guests, project partners and our collegues and students at the Hertha Firnberg School who made this for VET-CERT so important intermediate event possible and also successfull!

Conference documentation with numerous pictures and results of the conference evaluation (in German) are available at the VET-CERT website www.vet-cert.at/projekt/zwischenkonferenz.

VET-CERT Progress Report

After the first year of the VET-CERT project, it was time to reflect on and report the project activities, results and developments to the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) by the end of February 2012. In the Public Part of the Progress Report project objectives are, among other issues, described in terms of the project's work plan including a depiction of how the objectives have been met and accordingly, how will they be met during the second year of the project. The Public Part is available at:
www.adam-europe.eu/prj/7491/prd/5/1/2010_4649_PR_vet-cert_pub.pdf

At the end of May we received the evaluation results from the EACEA concerning the Progress Report with comments and recommendations. Our score was 59 points out of 70 in seven categories (85%), which sums up to a good to very good performance of the project. Thanks to you all who have contributed to this delightful result!

VET-CERT by BAKIP/BASOP Q-Board Meeting in Vienna on 25th of April 2012

Michaela Jonach and Jouko Luomi presented the VET-CERT project including project results and future activities to the participants of the Q-Board of Colleges for the Training of Nursery School Teachers and for Social Education (BAKIP/BASOP).

VET-CERT meets Basque Region

On the 26th of April 2012 VET-CERT was presented to and discussed with 10 experts of VET from the Basque Region who gained thorough knowledge of the Austrian Education and Training system during their Study Visit to Austria.

4) VET-CERT – Coming Up

> 4. Synergy Seminar for EQAVET Projects in Utrecht, **25./26. June** 2012
> 5. VET-CERT Workshop on **4th of July** 2012 in Steyr, focus on Curricular Framework and Certification Concept
> VET-CERT by the 3rd Austrian Conference on Research on VET (Österreichischen Konferenz für Berufsbildungsforschung) in Steyr on **5./6. July** 2012 (Poster Session)
> 5. Synergy Seminar for EQAVET Projects in Bonn, **12./13. September** 2012

Please, make a note:

The **4th Quality Network Conference (Qualitätsnetzwerk-Konferenz)** is at the same time
VET-CERT Final Conference:

03.12.2012 in Vienna, Austria
Qualification as a Way to Quality.
Professionalisierung von Qualitätsverantwortlichen in der Berufsbildung
(Professionalisation of the Quality Managers in VET)

Registration for the Conference begins on the 30.08.2012 over www.vet-cert.at and
www.qualitaet-in-der-berufsbildung.at

With kind regards,
the VET-CERT Team

Responsible for the content are: Jouko Luomi, Franz Gramlinger and Michaela Jonach,
Translation from German to English by Jouko Luomi.

If you find this newsletter and the project interesting, then please feel free to forward it (Newsletter can be subscribed through simple e-mail to: newsletter@vet-cert.at) – your subscription is most welcome! If you prefer not to receive further information of this kind, please let us know by sending an e-mail to the above address!

VET-CERT – Qualification as a Way to Quality

VET-CERT is a Leonardo da Vinci project developed and coordinated by ARQA-VET in cooperation with 12 national and international project partners.

With the VET-CERT project the competence development of persons in quality management functions in initial VET and in adult education will be fostered. This will support the professional implementation of the Quality Initiative VET (QIBB) and the implementation of the Ö-CERT framework in adult education as well as the implementation of the European reference framework for quality assurance in VET (EQARF) in both sectors. Professionally qualified and certified persons (principals, school quality process managers, regional quality process managers, quality managers in adult education etc.) should receive a comprehensive understanding of quality management tools and the possibilities they offer.

More information about the VET-CERT project is available on the project website: www.vet-cert.at